



Speech By  
**Tim Nicholls**


**MEMBER FOR CLAYFIELD**

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Record of Proceedings, 23 August 2017

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Palaszczuk Labor Government, Performance**

 **Mr NICHOLLS** (Clayfield—LNP) (Leader of the Opposition) (2.59 pm): Certainly we know where all the members opposite stand when it comes to the member for Bundamba, because we are now seeing the Labor Party at public and open warfare with itself. We have just seen that play out in the last two hours in this place.

We have a Premier who stood up, after avoiding the media for as long as she possibly could, and said in relation to the member for Bundamba that she felt hurt. What does she normally feel? She normally feels angry. Is she disappointed this time around? She is either disappointed, angry or hurt. What a terrible thing.

We have a Labor government deeply divided and at war with itself. If it were not enough that it is occurring among the existing parliamentary members, we now have input from the former member for Rockhampton, 'Rocky Schwarto'—the mentor of the member for Ashgrove—who is now at war with the member for Bundamba as well.

Obviously, when we talk about warfare we cannot leave out the member for South Brisbane, who is the epitome of internal warfare in the Labor Party. I can tell members that for free. They cannot get anyone from the Labor Party in Townsville to turn up when the member for South Brisbane turns up there. I can tell members for sure what the mayor up there thinks. What this reminded me of were the words that were spoken on 8 September 2006.

**Ms Trad** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Pause the clock. Deputy Premier, I find your interjections are designed to try to disrupt the Leader of the Opposition. I know I allow a bit of free flow, but I would urge members to allow the Leader of the Opposition to finish his contribution.

**Mr NICHOLLS:** What this reminded me of were the words that were spoken on 8 September 2006: 'If you can't govern yourself, you can't govern Queensland.' They were the words of Peter Beattie. That is the story of this Labor Party—a government so internally riven that it has lost focus on delivering for Queenslanders. This is a government so riven and rotten by its own internal fighting that its members are lining up one by one to throw it under the bus.

When the member for Bundamba spoke last night she laid out yet another con. She triggered another Labor crisis and she exposed the cost to Queenslanders. More importantly, she revealed a Premier who walks past corruption—cons, cost, crisis—

**Ms PALASZCZUK:** I rise to a point of order, Mr Speaker. I find those comments personally offensive and I ask them to be withdrawn.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Leader of the Opposition, will you withdraw?

**Mr NICHOLLS:** I withdraw.